



NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE
DEPARTMENT OF LAND, GRAZING & RANGE RESOURCES
P.O. Box 436
Lame Deer, MT 59043



1/31/2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Chairmen, Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

The Northern Cheyenne wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

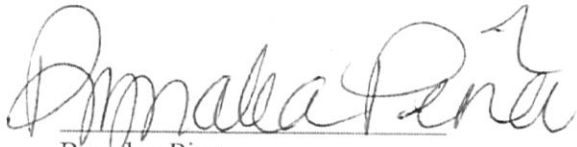
This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Northern Cheyenne Tribe manages 186 on 15,300 acres. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

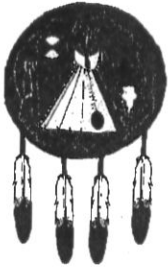
Sincerely,

**LITTLE WOLF AND MORNING STAR – Out of defeat and exile they led us back to
Montana and won our Cheyenne homeland that we will keep forever.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rynalea Pina". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Rynalea Pina

President Northern Cheyenne Tribe



PONCA TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

P.O. Box 288 • Niobrara NE 68760 • Phone: 402.857.3391 • Fax: 402.857.3736

February 4, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Ponca Tribe of Nebraska manages 113 buffalo on 525 acres of land. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Respectfully,

Larry Wright, Jr., Chairman
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

cc: Tribal Council
EDTA/DDTA



Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Government Center

January 31, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

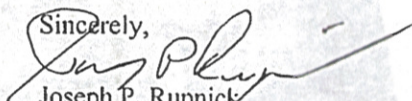
The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation manages over 130 head of Buffalo on 835 acres. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,


Joseph P. Rupnick
Tribal Council Chairman
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation



RED LAKE BAND OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Economic Development & Planning

P.O. Box 587 Red Lake, MN 56671

Phone: 218-679-1455 Fax: 218-679-1453

February 4, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians will be managing 6 buffalo on 80 acres in June 2020. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,

Cherilyn Spears

Project Coordinator, Red Lake Economic Development

ROUND VALLEY INDIAN TRIBES
A Sovereign Nation of Confederated Tribes

TRIBAL COUNCIL OFFICE
77826 COVELO ROAD
COVELO, CALIFORNIA 95428
PHONE: 707-983-6126
FAX: 707-983-6128



LOCATION: ON STATE HWY 162
ONE MILE NORTH OF COVELO
IN ROUND VALLEY
TRIBAL TERRITORY SINCE TIME BEGAN

ROUND VALLEY RESERVATION ESTABLISHED 1856

February 3, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

The Round Valley Indian Tribes wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Round Valley Indian Tribes manages 16 buffalo on 60 acres of land. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,

Toni Bettega, Natural Resources Department Manager

Santee Sioux Nation

TRIBAL HEADQUARTERS

Chairman: Roger Trudell
Vice-Chairman: Sidney Tuttle
Treasurer: Derek LaPointe
Secretary: Stuart Redwing



425 Frazier Ave. N. Suite 2
Niobrara, NE 68760-7219
Phone: (402) 857-2302
Fax: (402) 857-2307

February 3, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee of Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,


The Santee Sioux Nation wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

The bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the Inter Tribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Santee Sioux Nation manages 50 head of buffalo on 300 acres of land. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all – buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,


Roger Trudell, Chairman
Santee Sioux Nation



"MESKWAKI NATION"

Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa

349 Meskwaki Road, Tama, IA 52339-9634 • (641) 484-4678 FAX (641) 484-5424

February 3, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

The Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa manages 50 on 265 acres of land. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Davenport', written over a horizontal line.

Dawson Davenport
Tribal Chairman

2-3-2020



SPIRIT LAKE TRIBE

P.O. BOX 359 • FORT TOTTEN, ND 58335 • PHONE 701-766-4221 • FAX 701-766-4126

February 3, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

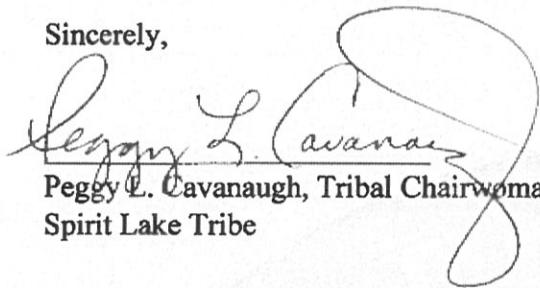
The Spirit Lake Tribe wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

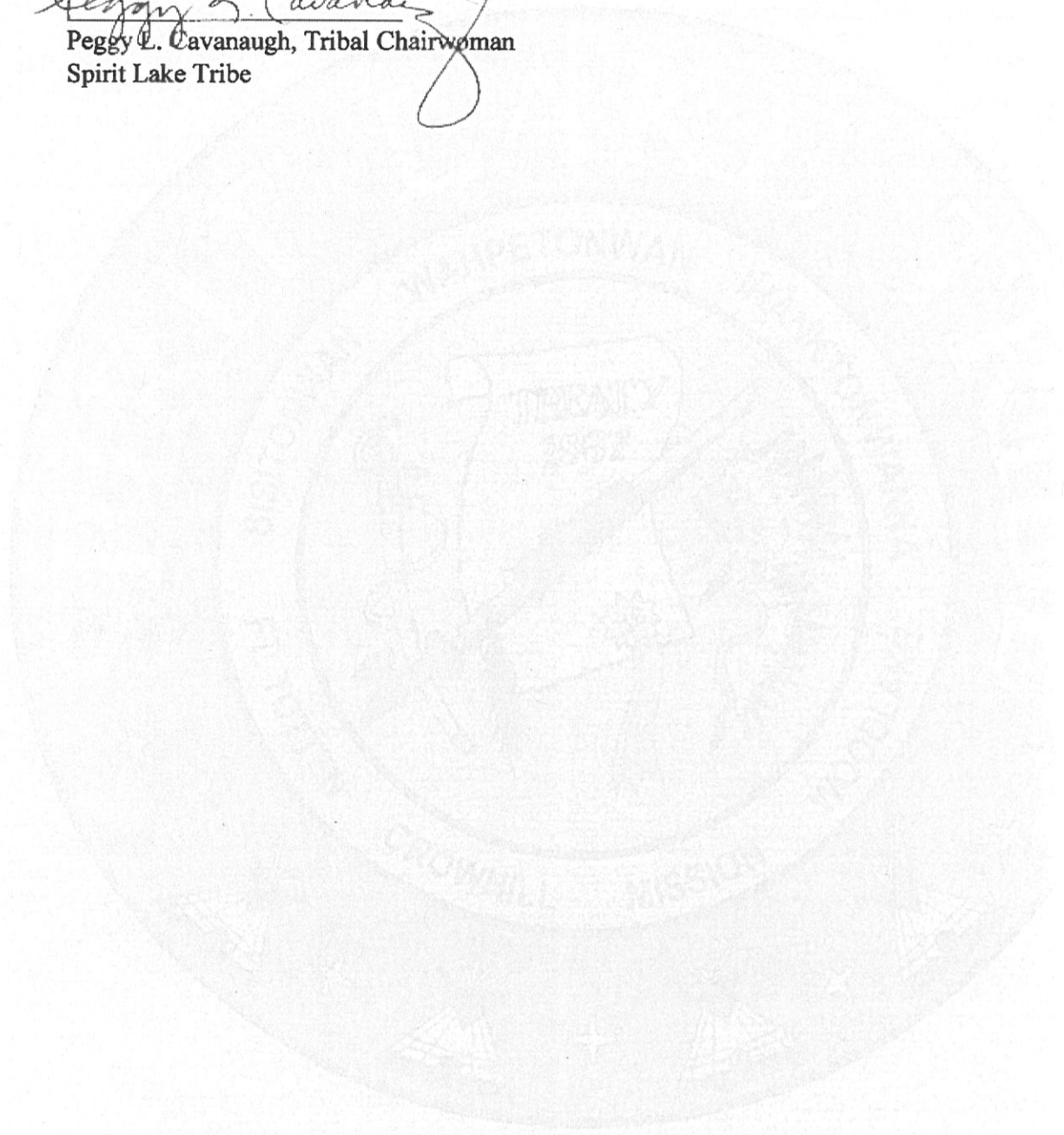
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The Spirit Lake Tribe manages [155 head] on [1,834 acres]. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,


Peggy L. Cavanaugh, Tribal Chairwoman
Spirit Lake Tribe



TRIBAL COUNCIL
(AT LARGE)

Warren Hawk

Avis Little Eagle

Jesse McLaughlin

Kory McLaughlin

Nola Taken Alive

Charles Walker

Ira Taken Alive
Vice Chairman



Mike Faith
Chairman

Susan Agard
Secretary

John Pretty Bear
Cannonball District

Brandon Maua
Long Soldier District

Wayne Looking Back
Wakpala District

Delray Demery
Kenel District

Joe White Mountain Jr.
Bear Soldier District

Caroline Thompson
Rock Creek District

Verdell Bobtail Bear
Running Antelope District

Samuel B. Harrison
Porcupine District

January 31, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

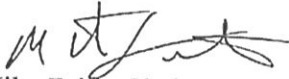
The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

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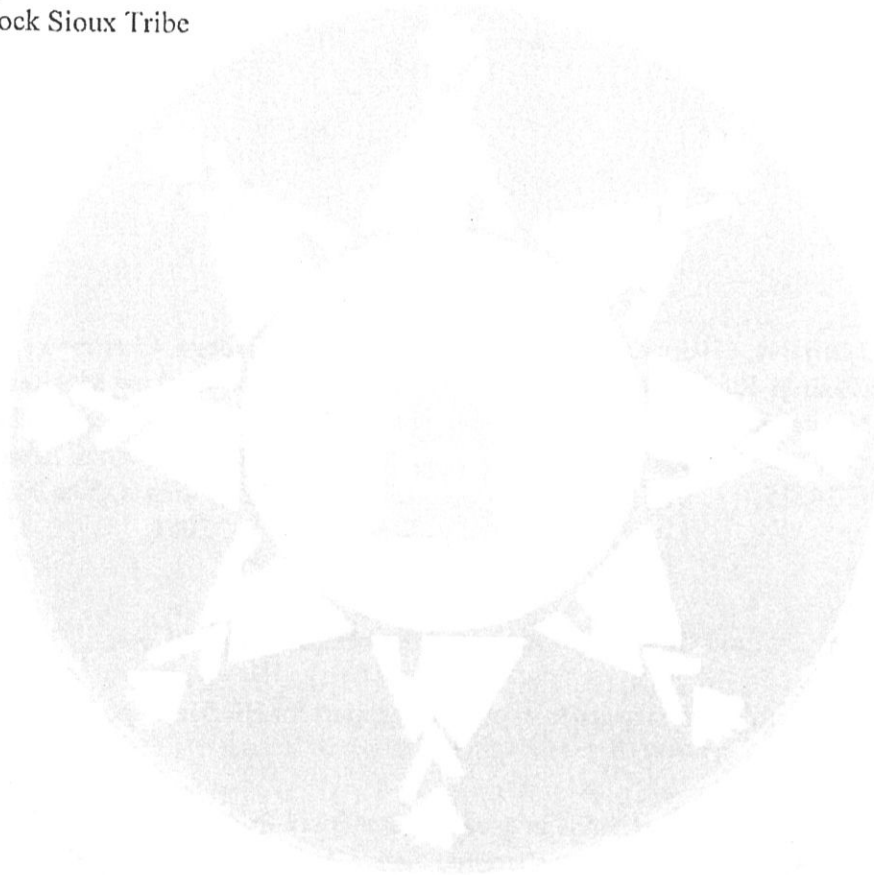
The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Faith", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mike Faith, Chairman
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe



Governor
P.O. Box 1846
Taos, NM 87571
Ph. 575/ 758-9593
Fax: 575/ 758-4604



War Chief
P.O. Box 2596
Taos, NM 87571
Ph. 575/ 758-3883
Fax: 575/ 758-2706

January 31, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

The Pueblo of Taos wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Pueblo of Taos is currently establishing a new 5000 acre range which will house one hundred to two hundred head of buffalo. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,

Edwin Concha
Governor, Pueblo of Taos

Gary J. Lujan
WarChief, Pueblo of Taos

From:
The Office Of The
Pueblo of Picuris Governor



Pueblo of Picuris
P. O. Box 127
Peñasco, New Mexico 87553
(575) 587-2519
Fax: (575) 587-1071

January 28, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

The Pueblo of Picuris wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

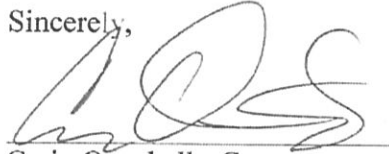
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The Pueblo of Picuris manages 41 bison on 710 acres of land. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will

create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Quachello', written over a horizontal line.

Craig Quachello-Governor
Pueblo of Picuris



January 31, 2020

Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman
Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515



Hon. Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Hon. Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Chairmen Grijalva and Gallego and Ranking Members Bishop and Cook,

The MHA Nation South Segment wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The MHA Nation – South Segment manages 101 buffalo on 3,680 acres of tribal land. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all—buffalo. The Act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,


Councilman Cory Spotted Bear - MHA Nation South Segment

Boyd I. Gourneau
Chairman



Tribal Administration
187 Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548
Phone: (605) 473-5561
Fax: (605) 473-5554

February 4, 2020

Honorable Ruben Gallego, Chairman
Honorable Paul Cook, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Indigenous People
House Committee on Natural Resources
1331 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Gallego and Ranking Member Cook,

The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe wishes to express its support for HR 5153, the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

This bi-partisan bill was drafted with the help of the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). ITBC, of which we are a member, is a federally chartered Native American organization that seeks to return buffalo to tribal nations to restore the cultural, spiritual, and traditional connection between buffalo and indigenous people, provide economic development opportunities, and supply a sustainable food source. ITBC does this by providing herd development grants for construction and maintenance of our buffalo infrastructure and surplus buffalo for herd formation and augmentation. However, ITBC's budget, which comes from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, has been stagnant for the past 10 years while its membership has continued to grow to 69 tribes in 19 states. Our funding is also supported, or may not be supported, based on whomever is in a position of influence at the BIA in any given year. Having an authorization for this program would be of great help.

The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe manages 300 buffalo on 6,000 acres of land. The Act will help our Tribe by allowing ITBC to provide more services, financial aid, and above all --- buffalo. The act will create an Indian buffalo management program in the Department of Interior to provide buffalo restoration on Indian lands, technical assistance, contracts and cooperative agreements, consultation and coordination, and surplus buffalo. This assistance is critical to the continued restoration of buffalo on tribal lands.

Thank you and we ask for your support of the Indian Buffalo Management Act.

Sincerely,

Boyd Gourneau, Chairman
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe